

# I'M WAITING FOR SHIPS THAT NEVER COME IN

*Wynette Duncan Breake*



*Successfully sung by  
Franklyn Baur*

WORDS BY  
JACK YELLEN

MUSIC BY  
A. OLMAN





# I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In

Words by  
J. YELLEN

Music by  
ABE OLMAN

*mf* *Sostenuto*

They These

say all the world is a stage, Life is  
beau - ti - ful dream ships of mine, What a

on - ly a dram - a of dreams; It's at birth that we start, Each one  
won - der - ful trea - sure they hold! If they ev - er come in, What a

plays a part That fate choos - es for us, it seems.  
prize I'll win, A love far more pre - cious than gold.



I'm just a dream - er whose dreams go a - stray, They  
And tho' my dream - ing may be all in vain, A

call me the fool in the play. I'm  
dream - er I'll glad - ly re - main.

*rit.*

## REFRAIN

*Not Fast*

wait-ing for ships that nev-er come in, Watch-ing and wait-ing in

vain, It seems that life's storm - y sea holds noth-ing for me

Vertrude  
 Pelham Strahl



But brok - en dreams and shat - tered schemes; With each day of sor-row I

love to pre - tend, One more to - mor-row and wait-ing will

end; I'm wait-ing for ships that nev - er come in,

I won-der where they-can be. I'm be.



# I'm Waiting for Ships That Never Come In

(Recitation by Jack Yellen)

Life is only a game of poker  
And Happiness is the pot.  
Fate deals you five cards in the cradle;  
You play—if you like it or not.  
Some get a pat hand to start with  
And the game doesn't seem on the square  
When you look at your hand and discover  
You were born without even a pair.  
But there's no use in kicking or squawking;  
You pick up your cards and begin  
To figure and plan and puzzle,  
While Fate looks on with a grin.  
Some take a chance at bluffing  
And stake everything they've got  
On a dinky little four-flush—  
Sometimes it wins the pot.  
Others will break up openers  
To draw for a middle straight.  
They know what a chance they're taking,  
And they learn their mistake too late.

Some can't help playing crooked  
Against all good advice,  
But they seldom get away with it—  
In the end they pay the price.  
The most of us play straight poker  
But I tell you, boys, it's hard,  
When you're there with both ends open  
And you can't draw the winning card.  
Now, I've always been a loser,  
It seems that I never can win;  
And I'm just a Dreamer who's waiting  
For ships that never come in.  
Why, look! What's that in the distance,  
Sailing across the sea?  
My ships! My ships are coming  
They're sailing home to me.  
With wealth and love and Happiness!  
My sorrowing days have passed  
It's the end of watching and waiting—  
My ships have come at last!

(Pantomime as if welcoming imaginary ships approaching from the distance, while four bars of "dream" music are played.)

Composers Note: The following music is to be used with Recitation, by direct cue.

Cue: "My Ships have come at last"

Cue: "They're sailing by! Those are not my ships"

**Grandioso**

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